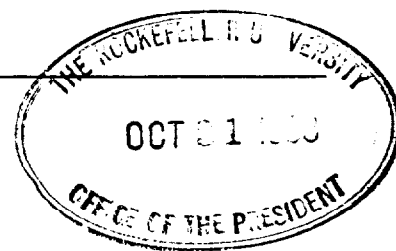


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October 26, 1988

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Rockefeller University
1230 York Ave.
New York, NY 10021

Dear Josh,

I am moving ahead with my writing and am now in the middle of the chapter on virulent phage. I have been going through a lot of correspondence from the CalTech archives between Delbrück and Hershey and ran across a letter concerning your work. I have copied that part and enclose it for your amusement. I assume that Hershey would not mind that I send it to you.

I found the Hershey/Delbrück correspondence quite revealing, especially on how ideas about phage genetics developed. The two papers in the 1946 CSH symposium (the same one where you gave your first talk) are quite revealing. You may recall that the title of Delbrück's paper was "Induced mutation in phage". Both he and Hershey thought, at that time, that during mixed infection one phage caused the other to mutate. I mention this because the idea of induced mutation also was current in the discussions of Avery's work. I enclose a copy of the working table of contents for my book. I have already completed a first draft of the mating chapter, but will not send it to you until I have completed through Chapter 10, as I am sure I will want to change some things.

You have seen, I presume, the new biography of Delbrück by Fischer and Lipson. I had a copy of the German version printed in 1985; the English seems to be much the same. Fischer had good access to the Delbrück papers, as well as Delbrück himself, and was also helped some by Manny Delbrück. The book is better on the scientist Delbrück than the Delbrück science.

Sincerely,

Tom
Thomas D. Brock

✓ I remember that very vividly! Delbrück was insistent on mutational excisions so one phage had to be acting from within. By the time of CSH, Hershey had pretty well decided it was recombination. He didn't want to compare Max too strongly. Aaron Nickle can fill this in too. He wasn't there, though.

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we talked about it later.

DEC 2 1988

Thank you. He was always very friendly to me. I was young!

yes.